

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /059 W

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R 141949Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6122

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

ALL EC CAPITALS 0216

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 30417

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR FR UR CSCE

SUBJECT: GISCARD CENSORED BY SOVIET PRESS?

REF: PARIS 30131

1. FOLLOWING ON LE MONDE STORY BY AMALRIC YESTERDAY REPORTING THAT SOVIET LEADERS WERE "EMBARRASSED" BY GISCARD'S EULOGY OF LIBERAL SOCIETY ON SOVIET TV INTERVIEW (REFTEL), AFP NOW REPORTS THAT, AFTER 24-HOUR DELAY,

PRAVDA AND IZVESTIA HAVE PUBLISHED TEXT GISCARD INTERVIEW BUT IN SIGNIFICANTLY CENSORED FORM.

2. ACCORDING THIS ACCOUNT PASSAGES DEVOTED TO GISCARD'S PERCEPTION OF IDEOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF DETENTE, HIS COMMENTS ON PLURALISM IN FRENCH SOCIETY, HIS DESCRIPTION
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OF FRENCH LIVING STANDARDS AND HIS REFERENCES TO UPCOM-

ING MEETINGS WITH BREZHNEV AND GIREECK WERE ALL IN VARY-
ING DEGREES OMITTED.

3. COMMENT: FRENCH PRESS NOW ACCEPTS THAT OMISSION OF
RUBLE EQUIVALENT IN RUSSIAN TRANSLATION OF AVERAGE
FRENCH WORKER'S INCOME DURING GISCARD INTERVIEW (REFTEL)
WAS PERHAPS JUSTIFIABLE, SINCE GISCARD APPARENTLY USED
WRONG FIGURE. HOWEVER, IF AFP REPORT OF MORE SUBSTAN-
TIAL ALTERATIONS IN PUBLISHED TEXTS ARE TRUE, THIS
HIGH- AND HEAVYHANDED SOVIET BEHAVIOR WILL INEVITABLY
COME IN FOR FURTHER CRITICISM HERE, BOTH IN FRANCO-
SOVIET AND CSCE CONTEXTS.
RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, CENSORSHIP, FOREIGN RELATIONS, TELEVISION BROADCASTING, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ullricre
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PARIS30417
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760387-0155
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761053/aaaabtja.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 PARIS 30131
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ullricre
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <05 AUG 2004 by ullricre>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GISCARD CENSORED BY SOVIET PRESS?
TAGS: PFOR, FR, UR, CSCE, (GISCARD D'ESTAING, VALERY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006